### Latin American Studies

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**Williams Hall, 31 Williams Drive**

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**Core Faculty**

Matthew Bush, Ph.D. (Department of Modern Languages and Literatures); Miguel Pillado, Ph.D. (Department of Modern Languages and Literatures); Antonio Prieto, Ph.D. (Department of Modern Languages and Literatures); Ricardo Viera, M.F.A. (Department of Art, Architecture and Design); Maria Bárbara Zepeda Cortés, Ph.D. (Department of History)

Latin American studies is a minor program designed for students who wish to develop an understanding of a neighboring region that is of vital importance to the United States. Courses in anthropology, archeology, foreign policy, history, language and literature, politics, sociology, visual arts and museum studies, allow students to explore various aspects of Latin American cultures and societies from an interdisciplinary perspective. The minor contributes to a liberal arts education by offering students an international vantage point from which they can examine their own society and prepares them to meet the challenges of an increasingly interdependent world. Additionally, the unprecedented movement of peoples and ideas between the American continents in recent decades makes the study of this region an essential component for understanding the history and culture of the expanding U.S. Latino population. The minor in Latin American Studies complements, therefore, major concentrations in disciplines that have either an international or a domestic focus, and it enhances the relevance of a Lehigh education by preparing students to be citizens of a culturally diverse society and, more generally, of the Americas.

The Latin American Studies minor program requires 15 to 16 credit hours of coursework. In addition to regular Lehigh offerings, students may receive minor credit for appropriate courses at other LVAIC institutions, study abroad programs in Latin America, and various Lehigh faculty-led programs, such as “Lehigh in Martinique” and “Lehigh in Costa Rica” (both offered during the winter term). Students are encouraged to take advantage of extracurricular activities sponsored by the Latin American Studies Program, which include guest speakers, exhibits, films, etc. To declare a minor in Latin American Studies, students must complete a minor declaration form ([http://catalog.lehigh.edu/coursesprogramsandcurricula/artsandsciences/latinamericanstudies/2016-17_LAS_Minor_Declaration_Form.pdf](http://catalog.lehigh.edu/coursesprogramsandcurricula/artsandsciences/latinamericanstudies/2016-17_LAS_Minor_Declaration_Form.pdf)).

#### History/Culture

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<thead>
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<th>Course</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 049</td>
<td>Colonial Latin America</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 050</td>
<td>Modern Latin America</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAS 152</td>
<td>The Cultural Evolution of Latin America</td>
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**Language**

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<tr>
<td>SPAN 012</td>
<td>Intermediate Spanish II</td>
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**Electives**

Elective courses (7-8 credits) chosen from the following LAS cross-listed courses or collateral courses. Credit may be received for other courses, in consultation with the Program Director.

**Total Credits**

15-16

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2 Special topic courses in Art and History may be applicable electives to the Latin American Studies minor. Refer to course listings for Special Topics in Art History (ART 269), Special Topics in Studio Practice (ART 273), Special Topics in Museum and Curatorial Studies (ART 370), Museum Internship (ART 375) Themes in History (HIST 104), Topics in History (HIST 303) and Special Topics In History (HIST 372). Spanish Special Topics (SPAN 290) may also be applied as a LAS elective. Students should consult with the Program Director for approval of any of the previous listed courses.

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### ELECTIVE and Collateral COURSES

Each semester, a complete list of Latin American Studies course offerings can be found on the web site or in the Office of Interdisciplinary Programs, Williams Hall, Suite 101.

**ART 177**  
Modern Latin America

**ART 202**  
Latin American Visual Arts and Culture

**ART 269**  
Spanish American Art

**ART 273**  
Spanish American Film

**ART 303**  
Mesoamerican Archaeology

**ART 370**  
Latin American Art Studies

**ART 373**  
Latin American Literature

**ART 375**  
Latin American History

**ART 376**  
Latin American Cinema

**HIST 039**  
Latin American History

**HIST 049**  
History of Latin America

**HIST 050**  
History of Latin America

**HIST 303**  
History of Latin America

**HIST 368**  
Seminar in Latin American History

**IR 177**  
International Relations

**IR 178**  
International Relations

**IR 222**  
Political Economy of North-South Relations

**IR 323**  
Political Economy of Industrialization and Development

**LAS/AAS/SOC 106**  
Race and Ethnicity in Latin America and the Spanish Speaking Caribbean

**LAS/AAS/MLL/FREN/HIST 133**  
Lehigh in Martinique: Globalization and Local Identity

**LAS/SPAN 152**  
Cultural Evolution of Latin America

**LAS/SPAN 155**  
Afro-Latino Social Movements in Latin America & the Caribbean

**LAS/AAS/SOC 177**  
Cuba: Race, Revolution and Culture

**LAS/ANTH 184**  
Indigenous Cultures of Latin America

**LAS/GE/MALL/ENGL 202**  
Latin American In Fact, In Fiction

**LAS/SPAN 211**  
Business Spanish

**LAS/SPAN 213**  
Introduction to Hispanic Literature and Film

**LAS/ART 227**  
Latino Visual Arts and Culture in American Art

**LAS/ART 228**  
American Art

**LAS/SPAN 243**  
Indigenous Cultures in Spanish American Narrative

**LAS/SPAN 263**  
The Spanish American Short Story

**LAS/SPAN 265**  
Spanish and Latin American Cinema

**LAS/SPAN/WGSS 275**  
Introduction to Hispanic Women Writers

**LAS/SPAN 276**  
Contemporary Literature of the Southern Cone

**LAS/GE/ENGL/302**  
Travel and Adventure in Latin American Fiction

**LAS/SPAN 320**  
Literature of the Spanish Caribbean

**LAS/SPAN 321**  
Children and Adolescents in Contemporary Spanish American Literature

**LAS/SPAN 322**  
The Short Novel in Contemporary Spanish American Literature

**LAS/SPAN 323**  
Literature and Revolution in Contemporary Cuba

**LAS/SPAN 325**  
Hispanic Literature of the United States

**LAS/SPAN/WGSS 326**  
Tradition and Resistance: Women Writers of Latin America

**LAS/SOC 330**  
Society, Democracy and Revolution in Latin America
**Courses**

**LAS 106 (AAS 106) Race and Ethnicity in Latin America and the Spanish Speaking Caribbean 4 Credits**
A sociological examination of race and a look at an individual’s experience. We consider how concepts like “race” and “ethnicity” have been defined and how they have been institutionalized in law, government, social policy, social thought, and economic structures. We consider the importance of concepts like “race,” “cultures,” and “mestizaje” to our understanding of citizenship and national identity, and we address contemporary African and indigenous movements against racial inequality.

*Attribute/Distribution: SS*

**LAS 133 (AAS 133, FREN 133, HIST 133, MLL 133, POLS 133) Lehigh in Martinique: Globalization and Local Identity 3-4 Credits**
History, culture and politics of the French Caribbean island of Martinique, from its position as a key site of the 18th century Atlantic World economy to becoming an official French department and outpost of the European Union. Interdisciplinary perspectives on the complex nature of social identity, historical memory and impact of globalization. No French is required. Offered during winter inter-term through Lehigh Study Abroad.

*Attribute/Distribution: SS*

**LAS 152 (SPAN 152) Cultural Evolution of Latin America 4 Credits**
The historical and cultural evolution of Latin America. Discussion of representative literary works in their cultural and historical contexts. Prerequisite as listed below or consent of instructor.

*Attribute/Distribution: HU*

**LAS 155 (AAS 155, SOC 155) Afro-Latino Social Movements in Latin America & the Caribbean 4 Credits**
This course focuses on Afro-Latinos who make up nearly 70% of the population of the Americas. Despite the large amount of people of African descent living in the Americas, Afro-Latinos are an understudied population who face significant amounts of racial discrimination in their countries. Who are Afro-Latinos? Where do they live? How are they challenging the racism that they face? These are questions we will tackle in this course.

*Attribute/Distribution: SS*

**LAS 177 (AAS 177, SOC 177) Cuba: Race, Revolution and Culture 4 Credits**
This course analyzes the role of race & “culture” in the Afro Cuban struggle for equality. By focusing on the arts: particularly music, film & literature, this course will analyze the development of race during Cuba’s colonial period; the Afro Cuban challenge to the “race blind” political and cultural movements of the Cuban Republic. We will then wrap up the semester by addressing the significance of contemporary cultural movements that challenge the social issues currently facing Afro Cubans.

*Attribute/Distribution: SS*

**LAS 184 (ANTH 184) Indigenous Cultures of Latin America 4 Credits**
This examines social change in Latin America from the perspective of indigenous peoples. Main goals are to develop an appreciation for the diversity of cultures found in Latin America, explore anthropological concepts like cultural ecology, ethnicity, acculturation, and religious syncretism, and to apply these concepts to contemporary issues, including cultural survival, human rights, and environmental sustainability.

*Attribute/Distribution: SS*

**LAS 202 (ENGL 202, GS 202, MLL 202) Latin American In Fact, In Fiction 4 Credits**
This class couples a survey of Latin American literature in translation with an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Latin America. Departing initially from readings of literary and cinematic films, our analyses will engage methodologies from multiple disciplines including history, sociology, and cultural studies. Accordingly, this course will examine critical developments in Latin American aesthetics along with the cultural climates in which they matured. This course assumes no prior study of Spanish, Portuguese, or Latin American culture.

*Attribute/Distribution: HU*

**LAS 211 (SPAN 211) Business Spanish 4 Credits**

*Prerequisites: SPAN 141*

*Attribute/Distribution: HU*

**LAS 213 (SPAN 213) Introduction to Hispanic Literature and Film 4 Credits**
An introduction to the analysis of Latin American and Spanish cultural productions (mainly literature and film).

**LAS 227 (ART 227) Latino Visual Arts and Culture in American Art 4 Credits**
Because art has no country, but the artist does, is contemporary art a product of globalization? Is Latino and Latin American art, culture and art criticism a nationalistic platform of cultures. Who’s who in the current Latino and Latin American art world? Students will utilize works from the university (LUAG) collection and/or research and interview a contemporary artist at his or her studio (if possible) for essays or media projects.

*Attribute/Distribution: HU*

**LAS 228 (ART 228) 4 Credits**
A history of photography in an in-situ class, at the LUAG Teaching Collection Visual Laboratories and Integrated Open Storage classroom. The course will explore the power of photographs as a dominant 21st Century universal visual art form, emphasizing Latino and Latin American photography. The students will progressively work their way through today’s explosive array of digital, one channel video, photobase and conceptual discourses of our remix culture through evolutionary image-making of the 20th and 19th Century, and the uses of photographic processes that have enriched our perceptions and our world. Readings, group discussions and individual research. The course will conclude with a final project/paper: a one figure or theme paper and a small group/team project (to be determined later). This will constitute the transformative approach to study the state of photography today.

*Attribute/Distribution: HU*
LAS 243 (SPAN 243) Indigenous Cultures in Spanish American Narrative 4 Credits
A survey of Spanish American narratives that deal with the relationship between indigenous and occidental cultures. While examining works created from the late 19th century up until present day, we analyze the construction of cultural identity in several countries including Bolivia, Ecuador, and Mexico. Analysis will include works of poetry, short story, novel, essay, and film by several influential authors: Clorinda Matto de Turner, Jorge Icaza and José María Arguedas, to name just a few.

LAS 263 (SPAN 263) The Spanish American Short Story 4 Credits
Comparative study of representative works by major writers such as Quiroga, Borges, and Cortazar, among others.

LAS 265 (SPAN 265) Spanish and Latin American Cinema 4 Credits
Prerequisites: SPAN 141
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 275 (SPAN 275, WGSS 275) Introduction to Hispanic Women Writers 4 Credits
The objective of this class is to introduce students to Hispanic contemporary female authors from Latin America, Spain, and the United States through the analysis of all literary genres (novel, short story, poetry, essay, and drama). This class provides students with a solid introduction to Hispanic women's writing from the last years of the Nineteenth Century to the present, as well as to feminist literary theory.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 276 (SPAN 276) Contemporary Literature of the Southern Cone 4 Credits
This course focuses on the literature of Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay from the beginning of the 20th Century to the present. It analyzes the works of major authors through different genres studying how they represent history and culture, particularly during periods of political instability and state violence. Texts by Jorge Luis Borges, Pablo Neruda, Manuel Puig, Griselda Gambaro, Cristina Peri Rossi, and Antonio Skarmeta, among others, are studied.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 302 (ENGL 302, GS 302, MLL 302) Travel and Adventure in Latin American Fiction 4 Credits
Centering on a corpus of works presenting tales of travel and adventure, this class offers an overview of Latin American narrative genres (including “fantastic” narrative, magical realism, and postmodern fiction) from the mid 20th century to present day. Through close readings of works by Adolfo Bioy Casares and Roberto Bolaño, among others, and the analysis of filmic representations of travel in Latin America, we will examine differing modes of perceiving the region defined as Latin America.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 320 (SPAN 320) Literature of the Spanish Caribbean 4 Credits
Study of representative works with emphasis on Cuba and Puerto Rico. Writers include Barnet, Carpenter, Sánchez, and Rodríguez Juliá.
Prerequisites: LAS 152 or SPAN 152
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 321 (SPAN 321) Children and Adolescents in Contemporary Spanish American Literature 4 Credits
Discussion of narrative techniques and the category of the self as they relate to the images of adolescence and childhood in works by such authors as Vargas Llosa, Reinaldo Arenas, José Bianco, Silvina Ocampo.
Prerequisites: LAS 152 or SPAN 152
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 322 (SPAN 322) The Short Novel in Contemporary Spanish American Literature 4 Credits
Reading and discussion of representative works by García Márquez, Onetti, Rulfo, and Biy Casas, among others.
Prerequisites: LAS 152 or SPAN 152
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 323 (SPAN 323) Literature and Revolution in Contemporary Cuba 4 Credits
Study of works written after 1959 by dissident, nondissident, and exiled authors (Desnoes, Norberto Fuentes, Benítez Rojo, and Pedro Juan Gutiérrez, among others).
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 325 (SPAN 325) Hispanic Literature of the United States 4 Credits
Discussion of fiction, poetry, drama, and film from the main groups in the U.S. Hispanic population. Discussion of Hispanic ethnic identity, bilingualism, and minority issues.
Prerequisites: LAS 152 or SPAN 152
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 326 (SPAN 326, WGSS 326) Tradition and Resistance: Women Writers of Latin America 4 Credits
Study of poetry and narrative works by Latin American women writers. Authors include Rosario Ferré, Rosario Castellanos, Elena Poniatowska, Cristina Peri Rossi, among others.
Prerequisites: SPAN 152
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 330 (SOC 330) Society, Democracy and Revolution in Latin America 4 Credits
Latin America is a region filled with protest and armed guerrilla movements. Since the fall of the Soviet Union in 1989, at least 5 nations in the region elected openly socialist or communist candidates, many of whom are still in power today. What is happening in Latin America? This course will focus on Latin American perspectives on democracy and social revolution. For many Latin American countries, the move to the “left,” and the rejection of American capitalism is not that Latin American people embrace socialism, but rather it is a reflection of larger social dynamics at play... or is it?
Attribute/Distribution: SS

LAS 342 (SPAN 342) The New Narrative Spanish American Literature 4 Credits
Critical evaluation of distinguished works of Spanish American prose fiction of the 1960’s and 70’s. Readings by Donoso, Fuentes, García Márquez, and Vargas Llosa, among others.
Prerequisites: LAS 152 or SPAN 152
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 345 (SPAN 345) Testimonial Writing in the Hispanic World 4 Credits
This course explores the genre testimonio, which confronts the official history of the Latin American and Spanish dictatorships and portrays the experiences and struggles of those who suffered political repression. The course focuses on the analysis of both literary and visual testimonios from the Hispanic world, as well as on theoretical issues concerning discourses of truth.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 346 (SPAN 346, WGSS 346) Contemporary Hispanic Women Writers: The Novelistas 4 Credits
This course explores the works of Hispanic women writers who have been oppositional to hegemonic cultural politics during the Twentieth Century in Latin America and Spain. Within their particular contexts, we examine issues these writers define as important in their work, their literary and political impact, use of literature to empower minority positions, and their narratives’ effects on the changing literary canon. Selected topics include: historical interpretations, exile, forms of violence and repression, expressions of desire, and sexuality.
Attribute/Distribution: HU
LAS 378 (ANTH 378) Blood, Pyramids, and the Tree of Life 4 Credits
This course explores the ways of life of the Maya people. We will take a close look at their religion, their foods, their family life, music, medicine, festivals, etc. An important part of this class explores the long tradition of the Maya, making connections between the modern Maya and the Maya of their past.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

LAS 391 (SPAN 391) Melodrama in Contemporary Spanish American Narrative 4 Credits
From the earliest works of Latin American narrative onward, melodrama has served as a fundamental tool for the structuring of dramatic conflict. Ranging from the programmatic social novel to the most parodic contemporary works, we will carefully examine the aims of melodramatic narration in works by Roberto Arlt and Mario Vargas Llosa, among others, as well as in various films and telenovelas.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 392 (SPAN 392) The City and the Country in Spanish American Narrative 4 Credits
Across the history of the region defined as Latin America, urbanization, on the one hand, and the isolation of national interiors, on the other, have contributed to a problematic relationship between the city and the country. In examining works by the likes of Roberto Arlt, José Donoso, and Mario Bellatin, among others, this course examines the dialogue between the ostensibly separate environs of city and country, and questions they ways in which they influence one another.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

LAS 393 (SPAN 393) The Boom and Beyond 4 Credits
This class will examine works from the so-called Boom of Spanish American literature in the 1960s alongside texts produced following this crucial moment of artistic and social change throughout Latin America. Moving from the Boom toward the postmodern, we will consider works by Gabriel García Márquez, Manuel Puig, and Mario Levrero, among others.
Attribute/Distribution: HU